हो जाए और उनको जो मुआवजा दिया जाना है, उसका भुगतान हो जाए ? क्या कोई ऐसी समय सीमा भी आप तय करेंगे–पिछले बीस सालों में यह परियोजना पूरी नहीं हुई लेकिन आगामी पांच या दस सालों में यह परियोजना पूरी हो जाए, क्या ऐसा समय सीमा वाला कार्यक्रम भी आप बनायेंगे ?

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Chairman, Sir, as I have already said, I cannot give an assurance regarding the time-frame of the project. The completion of the project depends on the availability of funds from three different States and out of these three States, two States are not co-operating.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Sir, it has already taken 20 years. They have not even concentrated on the model village for rehabilitation. The Minister is not in a position to tell us how long it will take to complete it.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, I have already submitted to the hon. House that the dates can't be given. I have already given the approximate dates because it is subject to the availability of funds and the funds have to come from three different States. I have already submitted that except Madhya Pradesh, the other two States are not co-operating. So far, eight model villages have been taken up for development.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Not even one, Sir. I had been to that area only last week. I know, though they are saying 'eight villages' not even one village has been established so far.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, I will verify this information and write to the hon. Member.

*263. [*The Questioners (Shri Kanak Sinh Mohan Sinh Mangrola and Shri Aas Mthammad) were absent. For answer See* vide *Col...* infra]

*264. [*The Questioners (Shri Satya Prakash Malaviya and Shri Anant Ram Jaiswal) were absent. For answer see* vide *Col...* infra]

Soil erosion in Orissa

*265. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any survey on the land affected by soil erosion in Orissa;

(b) if so, when was the last assessment made;

(c) the approximate land affected by soil erosion, sand dune and water logging in that State including sea erosion;

(d) the steps taken by the Centre to save the land from erosion; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b) The assessment of the land affected by soil erosion in the country including the State of Orissa has been documented in the Report of the Working Group for Planning based on land and water use for the formulation of VIII Five Year Plan (Submitted in June, 1989).

(c) The estimated land affected in the State by soil erosion is 45.78 lakh ha. and due to water logging 0.60 lakh ha. Besides this, sea erosion is taking place in the areas lying north of Paradeep Port and hookitola island. Erosion is also noticed at Gopalpur and Penta Satabhaya. Coastal sand dunes occupy about 3000 acres in Ganjam District where survey has been conducted by State Agriculture Department.

(d) and (e) Soil conservation programmes are being implemented by State Government in the State Sector through some of the following major scheme.

(i) Integrated Watershed Development Programme.

(ii) Indo-Denish Comprehensive watershed Development Programme.

(iii) Utilisation of Wastelands by Cashew and Sesal Cultivation.

(iv) Shelter Belt Plantation to check sea erosion.

(v) Coastal sand dune Stabilization Programme in Ganjam District.

(vi) Soil Conservation training programme to upgrade the skills of staff.

State Government has made a provision of Rs. 85.09 crores during VIII Plan for various soil conservation programmes in State Sector.

Besides, there is a component of soil & water conservation in some Central Government Scheme such as Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects-which covers Hirakund, Machkund and Rengali Mandira projects, National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN: First supplementary, please.

SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Mr. Chairman, soil erosion is posing a very serious threat in Orissa, particularly in the coastal areas. I would like to know whether the hon Minister is aware of the fact that in a few villages in areas north of Paradeep Port and Hookitola island, certain areas have been submerged and a few are on the verge of being submerged. What steps has the Government taken to save these villages in this regard?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Sir, the subject raised by the hon. Member belongs to the State Government, and the State Government will take care of this problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary, please.

SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Arart from sea erosion, Orissa faces another serious threat in the hill districts like Mayurbhanj, Ganjam, Sundargarh and Koraput. It is soil erosion and this is due to the fact that the river comes from these hilly dtstricts. The velocity of water is very high and *jhum* cultivation is there. Is there any concrete proposal with the Government of India to stop this soil erosion? If so, what is the amount spent on this scheme?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Sir, the Government of India has a project-a river valley project. Under that project, the Government of India assists the State Governments. If a proposal comes from the State Government, particularly about this problem, certainly the Government of India will help.

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Sir, I want to know from the Government of India, whether it has got any programme for send dune stabilisation for the State of Orissa, and, if not, whether the Government of India is going to have any such programmes in future to save the coastal districts.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Sir, we do not exactly have the programme under that name. But, we have different projects which I will enumerate. We have the Integrated Watershed Development programme, Indo-Danish Comprehensive Watershed Development programme. Utilisation of Wastelands by Cashew and Sesal Cultivation. Shelter Belt Plantation to check sea erosion, Coastal Sand Dune Stabilisation Programme in Ganjam district, and, Soil Conservation Training Programme to upgrade the skills of the staff Under these, this problem can be covered.

SHRI BASANT KUMAR DAS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the cause of soil erosion is mainly deforestation. There are irrigation projects which are under construction in Orissa. One such project is in Kalahandi district the Upper Indravati Project. A sum of Rs. 20 lakhs was given in the year 1980 for the purpose of afforestation and till now, afforestation work has not been completed and in some places it has not yet started. The erosion is quite alarming in the State. Sir, this land erosion is taking place because the rivers are flood-prone. It

is mainly due to the floods that are created in the river. For that purpose, these river bunds were constructed. In my District Kalahandi, in this Plan period, a plan of Rs. 100 crores has been drawn up. It is such a big project that financial constraints will be there; but definitely it will be there. May I know from the hon. Minister whether his Ministry will think of dredging the rivers instead of constructing conventional bunds for checking the floods and land erosion? My second question is whether they will pay proper attention to taken necessary disciplinary action against those defaulting officers who are not implimentary the afforestation programme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): It is a simple question and a simple answer. He has put the finger right on the disease. He has also suggested the first-class medicine. Environment-that is the problem in all these things. That is why they are concentrating on this aspect and this needs a national awakening, I should say, because environment is going to have an effect on all the future prospects of our country. That is why we have initiated this programme for the river valley projects and the other projects. The hon. Member suggested bunds and all that. I know that the silt comes and the river bed rises. I know the malady caused by the silt. Until-and unless we have afforestation in the catchment areas, we cannot stop this silting. Otherwise we will have this problem and there is no remedy. So, we have to take up this programme on a very high priority basis. But since that concerns the State Governments, they must initiate action and they must take corrective action. I had gone to the site and seen the project. The bund is there but no canal is there. I do not know what sort of an arrangement it is. You must realise that spending money is one thing and the realisation out of it is something else. the utilisation is something else. They must get something out of the money which they are spending and also see that the area which is under catchment must be afforested. We are taking care of that. I can assure the hon. Member that I will write to the State Government and impress upon the State Government to take whatever action is necessary against whosoever they are and who are at fault.

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Sir, I feel happy that the research work in various areas is very satisfactory. May I ask the hon. Minister whether any steps have been taken to acquire patent rights for these varieties? (Interruption). I am sorry Sir, my supplementary is not related to this question. I apologise, Sir.

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Sir, the Minister in his reply to part (c) has indicated the existence of the places where sea erosion is taking place and has also indicated the steps that are being taken. Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether he relies upon the official information or relies upon the facts. Sir, he has stated that sea erosion is taking place in the areas lying north of Paradeep port. I would like to inform the Minister that in the cyclone that was there in 1971 around ten thousand people were washed away and submerged in the sea. Today only 50 people are left there in the village. No efforts have been made by the State Government. Many proposals were sent to the Central Government for protection and settlement of all those people, but nothing has been done. Is it a fact that you are relying upon the information, but making a statement that all these steps are being taken to save soil erosion and to save human lives in those areas? Will you please correct your answer by convincing yourself that all these facts stated by you are true? The supply of information which you are getting from the officers goes on continuing.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Sir, it is quite intriguing, what the hon. Member has asked, "Is there any other source of informaiton which you can depend upon"?

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Nothing has been done. That is why I am saying this.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is not humanly possible for one Minister to go and check up. The State Government should provide the correct information. The people are there on the spot and they must check it up.

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: I belong to that area. That is why I am very much interested.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I know that, but you must talk to the Sate-Ministry and they will give the information...(*Interruptions*)...We are sitting here in the Central Government...(*Interruptions*)...We get information from the State and we provide it to you. ..(Interruptions)... The worst form of Government is democracy,...(*Interruptions*)... but it is the best tried so far...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: My point is, if a Member from that area says that the answer is wrong and the situation is different, the Minister must enquire. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then let him get the correct positton from the State Minister or from the State Government...(*Interruptions*)... The Minister can ask the State Government. If you dispute it let him write.

SHRI SOMAPPA R. BOMMAI: Let the Minister write to the State Government.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I can only write to the State Government, but the information is provided by the State Government.

श्री नरेश यादव : सर, मेरा बहुत सीधा-सा प्रश्न है । यह भू-क्षरण का सवाल केवल उड़ीसा का सवाल नहीं है, पूरे देश का सवाल है । सभापति जी, गंगा-कोसी समुद्र के किनारे की जो जमीन है वहां भारी मात्रा में भू-क्षरण हो रहा हैं। तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या जिस तरह से वेस्ट लैंड कमेटी बनाई गई है, उसी तरह से एक कमेटी "ग्यारह विकास" के नाम से बनाई जाएगी । हम लोग गंगा-कोसी नदी के किनारे की जो जमीन है, उसे "ग्यारह" कहते हैं । तो क्या इस ग्यारह विकास समिति बनाकर आप इस राष्ट्रीय समस्या का हल करेंगे, मंत्री जी स्पष्ट जवाब दें ।

श्री अरविन्द नेताम : सभापति महोदय, वेस्ट लैंड डवलपमेंट के लिए एक कमेटी बनी है और उस कमेटी के माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य ने जो बात कही है, उस पर कमेटी में चर्चा होती है और उसी के आधार पर कार्यावाही होती है । ऐसा नहीं है कि इस पर कोई सोच-विचार नहीं होता है। यह कमेटी के माध्यम से ही होता है और कमेटी की सिफारिश के आधार पर ही कार्यवाही करते हैं।

श्री नरेश यादव : इस तरह का विचार क्या सरकार रखती है?

श्री अरविन्द नेताम: कमेटी है।

श्री नरेश यादव : वह बंजर जमीन के लिए है, इसके लिए नहीं है।

सभापति: श्री ईश दत्त यादव।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव : मान्यवर, सभापति जी, यद्यपि इस प्रश्न का संबंध उड़ीसा प्रदेश से है, लेकिन भू-क्षरण या सांइल इरोजन भूमि की उत्पादकता को प्रभावित करता है जिससे कि कृषि पर इसका प्रभाव पड़ रहा है, इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या पूरे देश में आपने कोई सर्वे कराया है या कोई आंकड़ा आपके पास इस प्रकार है कि देश की कृषि-योग्य कितनी भूमि पर क्षरण का प्रभाव पड़ रहा है और इसके लिए कोई आपने समयबद्ध योजना बनायी हैं कि कितने समय में इस भू-क्षरण या साइल हरोजन को दूर कर दिया जाएगा?

श्री अरविन्द नेताम : सभापति महोदय, इस संबंध में पहले ही सवाल में सारा जबाब दे दिया गया हैं । अगर माननीय सदस्य इसे देखें तो उसमें सारे आंकड़े मिल जायेंगे । अगर आप कहें तो मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह आंकड़े पढ़कर सुना दूंगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 266.

*266. The Queettons (Shri V. Rajan Chellappa and Shri S. Austin) were absent. For answer see vide Col infra)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 267.